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General Notes

THE WESTERN GREBE IN OHIO.

On Tuesday morning, October 28th, 1913, while passing Lake Glacier in Mill Creek Park, near Youngstown, Ohio, I observed a Grebe on the lake, which I was satisfied was the Western Grebe (*Aechmophorus occidentalis*). I consulted Mr. Volney Rogers, the park superintendent, and he agreed with me that the appearance of the Western Grebe in this locality was of sufficient importance to justify the taking of this bird, and on Thursday, October 30th, I shot it. The skin of this Western Grebe is now at the Carnegie Museum in Pittsburgh, Pa.

GEORGE L. FORDYCE.

THE CARDINAL ARRIVES AT LANSING, IOWA.—In a report of the northward advance of the Cardinal, which I gave in the last number of *Wilson Bulletin*, it was stated that the Cardinal had not yet reached Lansing. My correspondent at that place, Miss Martha H. Hemenway, writes me under date of November 11, 1913: "The Cardinals have visited us at last, or at least this is the first sight of them I have ever had here. A few days ago I noticed some strange birds in the trees quite high up, but not near enough to be sure of their beings Cardinals. Later I saw some on the river bank and watched them closely until they flew; one came near me, and then I had no doubt of them, as they showed a flash of color, which identified them without question."

This extends the range of this species to a point within a few miles of the northern boundary of Iowa. Their first appearance in new territory, almost without exception, has been in the cold months of the year.

ALTHEA R. SHERMAN.

National, Iowa.

Correspondence

Editor The Wilson Bulletin:

DEAR SIR—If you can spare me a little of your valuable space in the *Bulletin*, I should very much like to invite the attention of ornithologists to the work just published by Mr. Jno. Henry Gurney, of Keswick Hall, Norwich, England, entitled "The Gannet, a Bird with a History." This beautiful volume, so perfect in all the requirements of book manufacture, is from the presses of Messrs. Witherby and Company (326 High Holborn, London), and it is most assuredly not only a credit to that House, but entirely worthy of the pen and labor of its distinguished author.

In my opinion, this work in its treatment exemplifies — anatomically, ecologically and otherwise — one of the very best methods of setting forth, in popular fashion, what we have learned up to date about some particular bird, — the Gannet in the present instance. It gives us maps of the world and special localities presenting the “Distribution of the *Sulidæ* (‘Gannets and Boobies’)”; there are fine half-tone reproductions of photographs showing many places, islands, and so on, where these birds still breed or are found in large numbers; there is a fairly good bibliography presented, and a history of the names of the Gannets. The ecology is admirable, and there are beautiful colored plates of eggs and young. We also have chapters on development; on the embryo and allied subjects, with fine, illustrated chapters on the anatomy of the Gannets which, while sufficiently extensive, are of a character so well within the lines of popular treatment as to be not only quite readable, but in no way calculated to alarm the pure systematist or to ruffle the waters of even-going ornithology.

We find some excellent history on the “Mortality among Gannets,” “Gannets as Food,” “Attainable Ages of Gannets,” and even an admirable, illustrated chapter on “The Parasites Infesting Gannets,” with a brief treatment on the known examples of fossil forms of these birds.

We have many bird-forms in this country which it would well repay some broad ornithological writer to work up as Mr. Gurney has the Gannet, — birds, too, which are now being rapidly exterminated. Among these I would suggest the flamingo, the limpkin (*Aramus*), road-runner (*Geococcyx*), and others.

Let us trust that American ornithologists will appreciate Mr. Gurney’s “Gannet,” and that many copies of it will be sold in this country.

Faithfully yours,

R. W. SHUFELDT.